Grant of concessions to textile exporters

403. SHRI B. J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to grant certain concessions to textile exporters to overcome the problems being faced by them as a result of appreciation of rupee against Dollar;

(b) if so, the details thereof, *inter-alia* indicating its status in Orissa;

(c) the textile-export target for the current fiscal; and

(d) with the above concessions how far it will help to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Taking into account submissions of textiles and clothing export promotion councils and other associations, that the exports of textiles have been adversely affected due to the appreciation in the value of the Indian rupee *vis-a-vis* US dollar in the recent months, the Government has provided several relief measures, which include increase in Duty Entitlement Pass Book and Duty Drawback rates, exemption from service tax on select services, reduction in interest rates of pre-shipment and post-shipment credit and faster clearance of arrears of terminal excise duties and Central Sales Tax. These measures are applicable for the entire country including the States of Orissa.

(c) and (d) The target for the current fiscal year for textiles and clothing exports is US$ 25.06 billion. It is hoped that the textiles industry would be making sincere efforts to achieve the export target in the current fiscal year.

Unemployment due to crisis in textiles exports

†404. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the year 2006-2007 due to the crisis in export sector in textile-industry there is probability of 1.22 lakh laboures rendering unemployed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for arising a deep crisis in the textile industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN); (a) to (c) There was no crisis in India's textiles exports during the financial year 2006-2007. In fact, textiles exports registered a growth of about 7% in US dollar term during the financial year 2006-2007. There were no reports of un-employment in the financial year 2006-2007 in the textiles sector.

Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme

† 405. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a decision has been taken for implementing Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme by the end of 11th Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.